



Media Information

Columbus Division of Police

Date: 9/28/2019

Major Crimes Bureau / Homicide Unit

Thomas Quinlan, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Det. Heather Collins

Phone: (614) 645 - 4730 Ext: 4730

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide

Date: 9/27/2019

Time: 8:38 PM

Location of Offense/Incident: R/O 145 S. Harris Avenue

Zone: 3

Precinct: 19

Incident Report #: 190820101

Cruiser District: 194

Victim: Bernard Arthur Stoops Jr.

Sex: Male

Race: White

Age: 48

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Suspect: Michael James Tennihill

Address: 9169 Scioto Darby Creek Rd.

43026

☒ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex: Male

Race: White

Age: 45

Charges: Reckless Homicide (2903.041 F-3)

Suspect:

Address:

☐ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Charges:

Incident Summary: On Friday, September 27, 2019 at approximately 8:38 p.m., Columbus Police Officers were called to the rear of 145 South Harris Avenue on the report of a shooting. Upon arrival, Officers found an injured male, lying on the ground, suffering from an apparent gunshot wound. CFD Medic 17 responded to the scene and transported the victim, later identified as Bernard Stoops, to Grant Medical Center in critical condition. At 10:41 p.m., Mr. Stoops succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased by attending physicians.

The initial investigation revealed that the suspect was handling a loaded firearm, after an afternoon of drinking, and inadvertently discharged the weapon striking his "step brother" in the torso. The suspect, later identified as Michael Tennihill, admitted "playing" with the firearm and accidentally fatally shooting Mr. Stoops. This is corroborated by the victim's family who witnessed the incident.

The investigation continues.

Anyone with information regarding this incident, is asked to call the Columbus Police Homicide Unit at (614) 645-4730 or Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-TIPS.

This is the 80th Homicide in Columbus, Ohio in Calendar Year 2019. Incident #190820101. Detective Heather Collins is the lead detective on the case being assisted by Det. Jason Arnold.

Copy To: ☒ Executive Staff

☒ Bureau Commander

☒ Public Information Office

Prepared By: Sgt. Jeffrey Strayer #5113

Assignment: Homicide 3rd

Telephone: (614) 645 - 4730

Approved By: Sgt. Jeffrey Strayer #5113

Assignment: Homicide 3rd

